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THE

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

Presbyterian Church of Canada,

AT ITS SESSIONS AT MONTREAL,

JUNE 14–20, 1855.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE SYNOD

TORONTO:

PRINTED BY J. CLELAND, YONGE STREET,

1855.

OFFICERS OF SYNOD, 1855–6.

Rev. THOMAS LOWRY, Bradford, Moderator.

Rev. WILLIAM REID, A. M., Toronto, Clerk of Synod, and General Agent for the Schemes of the Church.

SAMUEL SPREULL, Esq., Treasurer of Bursary Fund.

JOHN REDPATH, Esq., Montreal, Treasurer of Foreign Missions.

CONVENERS OF COMMITTEES.

Home Mission Committee—Rev. W. Reid, Toronto.

Committee on State of Religion—Rev. D. Fraser, Montreal, and Rev. D. McLeod, Cobourg, Joint Conveners.

College Committee—Dr. Willis and Professor Young, Joint Conveners.

College Building Committee—J. McMurrich, Esq., Toronto.

Widows' Fund—J. Fisher, Esq., Hamilton.

Agency Committee—Dr. Burns.

On Board of Publication, &c—Rev. D. Inglis, Hamilton.

On Registration of Marriages, &c—Rev. T. Lowry.

On Foreign Missions—Rev. D. Fraser, Montreal.

On Sabbath Observance—Rev. R. F. Burns, St. Catherines.

On Sabbath Schools—Rev. W. Gregg, Belleville.

MEETING OF SYNOD.

FIRST SESSION.

At Montreal, and within Coté Street Church there, the 14th day of June, 1855, the which day the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada met, and, after sermon by the Rev. Henry Gordon, Moderator for the past year, from Joshua, chap. xiii., and 1st verse, was constituted for business.

The Synod Roll was made up and called, and the names of members in attendance were marked.

[*The names of Members in attendance are marked with an asterisk.*]

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*W. Smart		
*R. Boyd, A. M.	W. Thompson	Prescott.
*J. McMurrray	Dr. Edmonson	Brockville.
W. J. Macdowell		South Gower.

Rev. J. McMurray, *Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

*W. Lochead	Donald Kennedy	Osgoode and Gloucester.
James Geggie	Robert Cumming	Dalhousie.
*S. C. Fraser, M. A.	John Forrest	Macnab and Horton.
*Thomas Wardrope	*George Hay	Ottawa.
*Andrew Melvilie	David Bell	Pembroke.
*John Corbett	James Pritchard	Wakefield.
Peter Gray	Neil Stewart	Beckwith.
*James B. Duncan	*Francis Hall	Perth.
*John L. Gourlay	John Clarke	Aylmer and Nepean.
*James Smith, A. M.	*James Youll	Ramsay.
*David Wardrope	*William King	Bristol.
	Gilbert Thompson	North Gower.

Rev. S. C. Fraser. *Pres. Clerk, White Lake P. O.*

These two Presbyteries are now united into one, under the designation of the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*W. McAlister		Metis.
*W. B. Clark	*James Hossack	Quebec.
*David Black	Alpheus Kimpton	St. Therese de Blainville.
*Thomas Henry	John Maquet	Lachute.
*David Gordon	*John Fisher	Indian Lands.
*R. C. Swinton, (Miss'y)		Richmond.
*J. C. Quin		Osnabruck.
*Donald Fraser, A. M.	*John Redpath	Montreal, Coté Street.
*William Scott	*Edward Marshall	St. Eustache, &c.
Ewan McLean, (Miss'y)		Winslow, &c.
*Duncan Cameron		Lochiel.
*James McConechy	*John Thompson	Leeds.
*Hugh Campbell	*James Court	Cornwall.
*John Anderson	*Thomas Scott	Lancaster, &c.
*Robert McArthur	*John Mack	Durham and St. Louis de Gonzague.
*John Milne	*Moses Douglas	English River.
	*John McCallum	Montreal, St. Gabriel St.

REV. D. FRASER, *Pres. Clerk, Montreal.*

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

Donald McKenzie	William McKenzie	Zorra.
Daniel Allan	Samuel Rutherford	North-easthope.
Thomas McPherson	Benjamin Rigg	Stratford.
William Graham	Robert Turnbull	Egmondville.
Robert Wallace		Ingersoll.
Wm. R. Sutherland	Duncan Campbell	Ekfrid and Mosa.
Angus McColl		Chatham.
Lachlan McPherson		Williams.
*William S. Ball	Andrew Smith	Woodstock.
Duncan McMillan		Aldborough.
*John Scott	*William Begg	London.
*William King		Buxton.
*John Ross	*William Hutchinson	Brucefield.
*Duncan McDiarmid	Donald McPherson	Woodstock.
*William McLaren	William Duff	Amherstburgh.
*Andrew Tolmie	George Hart	Blandford.
*William Porterfield	William Hastie	Plympton.
*David Walker	*Archibald Young	Sarnia.
*William Doak		Port Stanley.
*James H. McNaughton		Saugeen.
	James Oswald	Tilbury.

REV. J. SCOTT, *Pres. Clerk, London.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

*George Cheyne	*Adam Stevenson	Saltfleet and Binbrook.
M. Y. Stark	Thomas Mair	Dundas.
John Bayne, D. D.	James Cowan	Galt.
*Robert Irvine	*John Fisher	Hamilton (Knox's Church.)
*David Inglis	*William Rowan	Hamilton (McNab Street)
*George Smellie		Fergus.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—(*Continued.*)

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Alexander McLean	William Wilson	Cumminsville & Nairn Ch.
*Samuel Young		Guelph.
John McKinnon		Owen's Sound.
*Duncan McRuar	Murdoch McRae	Ayr.
*James Black	*Alex. Mitchell	Caledonia and Allan's Settlement.
*John Alexander		Brantford.
Andrew J. McAuley		Nassagaweya.
*James Pirie	Peter Christie	Niagara.
Andrew Stevens		Paris.
John McKay		Wellesley.
	Salmon Minor	Dunnville.
	Alexander McKenzie	East Puslinch.

REV. M. Y. STARK, *Presby. Clerk, Dundas.*

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

*Robert Burns, D. D.	*James Shaw	Toronto, Knox's Church.
M. Willis, D. D., S. T. P.		
James Harris.		
James Findlay	*William Heron	Whitby.
*Thomas Lowry		West Gwillimbury.
*William Reid, A. M.		
*William Meldrum	David Campbell	Vaughan.
A. T. Holmes		Chinguacousy.
Thomas Wightman	*David Davidson	York Mills.
John McTavish	*Donald Cattanach	Thorah and Eldon.
John McLachlan		Acton.
*G. P. Young.		
*James Nisbet		Oakville.
Robert Ure		Streetsville.
John Gray	*Thomas Dallas	Oro and Orillia.
Joseph Alexander, A. M.		Union and Norval.
James Adams		King.
Robert McKenzie		Barrie and Innisfil.
*John Laing	*Alexander Wallace	Scarboro'.
John Black	D. McLellan	Red River.

REV. T. WIGHTMAN *Presby. Clerk, York Mills.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

*Donald McLeod	Andrew Jeffrey	Cobourg.
James Douglass	R. Taylor	South Cavan.
*John M. Roger	*R. Turnbull	Peterboro'.
John W. Smith	William Logan	Grafton and Colborne.
*John Smith	*John Smart	Darlington.
W. J. McKenzie	J. Ritchie	Baltimore and Coldsprings.
Francis Andrews	Thomas Short	Otonabee.
Robert Boag	G. Stewart	Cartwright and Manvers.
*William Blain	A. Robertson	North Cavan.
Jas. Bowie	A. Fraser	Norwood.
	James Hall	Smith.

REV. J. W. SMITH, *Pres. Clerk, Haldimand P. O.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	CONGREGATIONS.
*Henry Gordon		Gananoque.
*James Rogers		Demorestville.
*William Gregg, A. M		Belleville.
Robert F. Burns	*Robert Matthews	Kingston, Chalmers' Ch.
*Andrew Wilson		Kingston, Brock Street.
James W. Chesnut		Madoc.
*Thomas Chambers		Picton.

REV. W. GREGG, *Presby. Clerk, Belleville.*

The Synod unanimously requested Mr. Gillespie, of London, an Elder of the Presbyterian Church of England, who was present, to sit as a member of Synod.

Mr. Gillespie, having thanked the Synod for their kindness, took his seat.

The Synod then proceeded to elect a new Moderator, when the Moderator nominated Mr. McAlister, of Metis, which nomination was cordially received by the Synod. Mr. McAlister declined the appointment.

Mr. Cheyne, Mr. Henry, Mr. Lowry, and Mr. Clark, of Quebec, were severally proposed and seconded.

Mr. Henry and Mr. Clark, requested their names to be withdrawn.

The Roll was then called, and the votes marked, when twenty voted for Mr. Cheyne, and thirty-four for Mr. Lowry.

Mr. Lowry was accordingly declared to be duly appointed as Moderator of Synod, and accordingly took the Chair, and addressed the Synod in impressive and appropriate terms.

The Synod agreed to observe the following order in regard to the daily meetings of Synod, viz: to meet at half-past nine o'clock, and remain in Session until one, to meet again at half-past three, and continue in Session until the final adjournment in the evening, a half hour being allowed for refreshments, which the friends of the Church in Montreal have kindly undertaken to provide in the basement floor.

The Synod unanimously agreed to tender to the late Moderator their thanks for his impressive and suitable sermon, and to request him to furnish such portions of it as he may think proper for publication in the *Record*.

Thanks were accordingly tendered to Mr. Gordon by the Moderator.

The Synod granted permission to Presbyteries to meet in Montreal, during the present Sessions of Synod, for any competent business.

The Synod appointed the following Committee, viz: the Moderator, Rev. D. Fraser, Mr. Redpath, and Mr. Rowan, to make arrangements for preaching on the Lord's day.

The Synod then adjourned to meet at four o'clock.

The first part of the afternoon session to be spent in devotional exercises. The Diet was closed with Prayer.

SECOND SESSION.

THE SAME DAY, *Four o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

According to previous appointment, the Synod spent the first portion of the diet in devotional exercises, which were conducted by the Moderator, Mr. Macalister, Dr. Burns, and Mr. Wardrope.

Thereafter the minutes of last diet were read and sustained.

The Synod proceeded to appoint several Committees as follows, viz:—

On Bills and Overtures.—The Moderator and Clerk of Synod, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Messrs. Boyd, Duncan, Lochead, D. Fraser, S. C. Fraser, W. B. Clark, Scott, McLaren, Ball, Irvine, McRuar, Cheyne, Nisbet, McLeod, J. M. Roger, John Smith, Gregg, A. Wilson, and J. Rogers, Ministers, and Messrs. Young, Begg, Mitchell, Shaw, Heron, Smart, Turnbull, Redpath, Court, and Hossack, Elders.

On the Public Accounts of the Church.—Rev. W. Gregg, Messrs. Court, Davidson, Shaw and Hay.

On Statistical Returns.—Messrs. S. C. Fraser, S. Young, Ball, J. Black, Dallas, King, and Begg.

On Publication of Proceedings and Discussion of Synod.—Messrs. McLaren, McRuar, Scott, D. Fraser, S. C. Fraser, and Court.

The Synod also appointed Committees for revising the Synod Records, and the Records of the several Presbyteries.

The Synod then adjourned for half an hour.

Closed with prayer.

THIRD SESSION.

THE SAME DAY, *Seven o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod was again constituted.

After devotional exercises, the minutes were read and sustained.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on the State of Religion; the report was given in, and read by Mr. D. Fraser, one of the Conveners.

After lengthened conversation on the general subject of the Revival of Religion, and the various points specially brought out in the report, the following motion was unanimously agreed to:—

The Synod heard the report with lively gratitude, and yet with deep humiliation, cordially accept it, and return thanks to the Committee, and especially to the conveners for their judicious diligence; approve of its statements and suggestions; renew the Committee with additional members, and instruct them to print the report in the *Record*, and to follow it up with a pastoral address in the name of the Synod, and with the Moderator's signature, embracing the leading features of the report; recommend them to repeat their communications in any shape they please with the Ministers, and extend them to Catechists, and Sessions, and individual office-bearers in vacant charges, and empower them generally to adopt such measures as shall in their judgment seem well fitted to revive and to promote the work of God amongst us, and to report their diligence and its results to next Synod.

The Synod farther cordially approve of the suggestions made in regard to special Prayer in the present eventful crisis of the Church and of the nation, and earnestly recommend its practical adoption without delay, by all the Presbyteries and Members of the Church.

The Committee is appointed as follows, viz: Messrs. McLeod, D. Fraser, Boyd, Duncan, James Smith, R. F. Burns, Scott, Clark, Daniel Gordon, J. Gray, Dr. Bayne, and Dr. Willis, Ministers; and Messrs. Court, Rowan, Stewart, and McMurrich, Elders; Messrs. McLeod and Fraser, Conveners.

The Synod then adjourned, to meet to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M., and the Diet was closed with prayer.

FOURTH SESSION.

FRIDAY, *15th June*, 10 *o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted. The minutes of last meeting were read and sustained. The roll was again called and the names of member in attendance marked.

The Synod took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Perth, recommending the change of the name of that Presbytery into the Presbytery of Ottawa. The Synod adopted the Overture and sanctioned such change.

The Synod took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton, on the subject of employment of ministers from other Churches before they shall have been formally received into this Church.—After full discussion it was moved by Dr. Burns, and seconded by Mr. Irvine, that the Synod, after due consideration, are of opinion that there is no occasion for change in the laws of the Church, regarding entrants from foreign Churches, and therefore decline adopting the Overture.

It was moved in amendment by Mr. Gordon, seconded by Rev. D. Fraser, that the Overture be received and remitted to a Committee, with a view to consider and report under what restrictions Presbyteries might be permitted to employ, in Missionary services, ministers duly certified by other churches, prior to the period when the laws of the Church permit their formal reception.

The roll having been called, 24 voted for the motion, and 58 for the amendment, which was declared to be carried.

The Committee was appointed as follows, viz: Messrs. Gordon, D. Fraser, W. B. Clark, McRuar, Ministers, and Messrs. Fisher, Hay, and Heron, Elders, to report during the present meeting of Synod.

The Synod called for the College Report, which was given by Professor Young. The hour of adjournment having come, the Session was closed with prayer.

FIFTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past* 3 *o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and approved.

The Synod proceeded to take up an Overture from the Presby-

tery of Toronto on the subject of the examination of students.—The overture was read, and several members of Presbytery heard in support of it.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Synod receive the Overture, and, inasmuch as members of that Presbytery in support of that Overture have recommended the appointment of a Board or Boards of Examination, send down the whole subject to Presbyteries, instructing them to report to next Synod what they deem the best means for conducting the examination of the Students of this Church, whether by Presbyteries alone, or by a Board or Boards, or by Presbyteries and Board combined.

The Synod then adjourned until half-past Six. Closed with prayer.

SIXTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past Six o'clock, P. M.*

The Synod was again constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Committee appointed to make arrangements for preaching on the Lord's day gave in a report, and in accordance with it the Synod appointed, for Cote Street Church, Rev. W. McAlister, in the morning, and the Rev. John Alexander, in the evening; and for St. Gabriel Street Church, Rev. T. Wardrope, in the morning, and Rev. D. Inglis, in the evening.

The Synod then called for the Home Mission Report, which, in absence of Rev. Mr. Ure, was submitted by Mr. Reid.

(The Report detailed the spiritual destitution existing within the bounds of the several Presbyteries. From the statements given, it appeared that fully ninety labourers would be required in order to enable Presbyteries to respond to all the applications made to them.)

The report having been read, it was after lengthened deliberation unanimously resolved, that the report be gratefully received; that the Home Mission Committee be re-appointed, and that while they renew their efforts in giving effect to the laudable scheme already in operation for obtaining Ministers and Missionaries from the mother country, this Court would specially urge upon the Ministers and Elders within its bounds, to increase their efforts in seeking out young men who may give themselves to the work of the Ministry; and, further that each Presbytery be enjoined to recommend its settled Ministers to share a portion of their labors

with the vacant congregations and Mission Stations within its bounds; and that each Presbytery be advised to hold Missionary Meetings annually in all the congregations within its bounds, in order to stir up and increase the spirit of Missions among the people.

The Synod farther resolved that Dr. Bayne, Messrs. Gordon, and Ure, who have either gone to Britain, or are about to do so, be requested, while at home, to bring the claims of the Canadian Mission field before the Churches, with a view to the securing of additional labourers.

Dr. Burns gave some interesting information in regard to the Red River Mission, and its progress under the charge of the Rev. John Black.

Thereafter Mr. King submitted a report of the Buxton Mission. On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously agreed to receive the Report, and to direct that it be printed and circulated in the *Record*.

The Home Mission Committee was appointed as follows, viz: Rev. W. Reid, Convener. The Moderator, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis; Messrs Young, J. M. Roger, McLeod, J. Smith, Gregg, Burns, H. Gordon, Boyd, McMurray, Duncan, Wardrope, D. Fraser, H. Campbell, Clark, Quin, Scott, Ross, Ball, Doak, King, Irvine, Inglis, Stark, and McRuar, Ministers; and Messrs. McMurrich, Shaw, Jeffrey, Redpath, Court, Kennedy, Begg, Matthews, A. Fraser, Dallas, Mitchell, McLellan, McMillan, and Fisher, Elders.

The Synod then adjourned, to meet to-morrow, at ten o'clock, A. M. The Diet was then closed with prayer.

SEVENTH SESSION.

SATURDAY, 16*th June, Ten o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last Diet were read.

Rev. D. Fraser laid on the table a donation from A. Gillespie, Esq., of London, of £100 in aid of the Home Missions of the Church. The Synod, on motion made and seconded, unanimously agreed to tender to Mr. Gillespie, who was present in the House, their cordial thanks for this munificent donation.

The Moderator in name of the Synod, accordingly conveyed the thanks of the Synod to Mr. Gillespie.

The Synod then took up the consideration of the College Report.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Report of the College Committee be received and approved; and the Synod express the satisfaction and thankfulness with which they have learned the harmony and prosperity of the Institution during the year; that the Synod accept and adopt the curriculum of study submitted in the Report, but expressing their strong opinion of the desirableness of bringing the Hebrew classes at as early a date as possible under the direct care of the College, call the serious attention of the College Committee to this subject, and empower the Committee, if they shall see fit, to make arrangements for having the Hebrew taught by any of the Professors, or of the Ministers of the Church; that the Synod appoint the Professors, with S. Spreull, Esq., and G. Brown, Esq., M. P. P., to be a Committee to confer with the authorities of the University College, with a view to have the classes of that Institution made more available than at present, to the students of this Church.

The Synod further, in accordance with the recommendation of the Report, appoint the following Committee for the superintendence of the College for the year, viz:—from the Presbytery of Toronto, Revs. Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Prof. Young, Messrs. Reid, Harris, Wightman, Ure, McTavish, Laing & Gray Ministers, with Messrs McMurrich, Jas. Shaw, John Shaw, G. Brown, S. Spreull, and A. McGlashan. From the Presbytery of London, Messrs. Scott and Ross, Ministers, with Mr. Begg, Elder. From the Presbytery of Hamilton, Messrs. Irvine, Inglis, Young, and Alexander, Ministers, with Mr. Fisher, Elder. From the Presbytery of Cobourg, Messrs. McLeod and Roger, with Mr. Turnbull, Elder. From the Presbytery of Kingston, Messrs. Gregg and Wilson, Ministers, with Mr. Mathews, Elder. From the Presbytery of Brockville, Messrs. Boyd and McMurray, Ministers. From the Presbytery of Ottawa, Messrs. Wardrope and Duncan, Ministers, with Mr. Hay, Elder; and from the Presbytery of Montreal, Messrs. W. B. Clark and D. Fraser, with Mr. Redpath, Elder; Dr. Willis and Prof. Young, Joint Conveners. Messrs. John Scott, Robt. Irvine, John Laing, J. M. Roger, W. Gregg, J. B. Duncan, and D. Fraser, were appointed corresponding members of the Committee, in terms of the recommendation contained in the Report.

The Synod then took up two Appeals from a sentence of the Presbytery of Toronto, in regard to the election to the office of the Eldership of Mr. G. A. Pyper and Mr. J. M. Campbell, one Appeal by Dr. Burns, and another by Mr. Thos. M'Kay, Mr. D. Fraser, and others, members of Knox's Church, Toronto.

Parties were called, when there appeared Dr. Burns, for himself, as complainant; Mr. D. Fraser appellant; Mr. Lowrie and Mr. Laing for the Presbytery of Toronto; Mr. J. Shaw for the Session of Knox's Church.

The various papers in the case were read.

The hour of adjournment having come, the Session was closed with prayer.

EIGHTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past Three.*

The Synod was again constituted.

The minutes of last sederunt were read and sustained.

The Synod again took up the case from Knox's Church, Toronto, when Mr. Fraser, appellant, proceeded to read a paper on the part of the appellants.

Thereafter Mr. Gillespie addressed the Synod; communicating many interesting facts with reference to the progress of the state of the Presbyterian Church of England, and of its missionary efforts.

It was then moved by Mr. Fraser, and seconded by Dr. Burns, and unanimously agreed to,

That the Synod having heard the address of Alexander Gillespie, Esq., of London, an honoured Elder of the Presbyterian Church in England, return hearty thanks to Mr. Gillespie for his address; and request him to convey to the Synod of the English Presbyterian Church, the fraternal greetings of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, assuring them of the deep interest felt by this Synod in their progress and success at home and abroad.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the consideration of the report of the Committee on the Widows' Fund.

The report was given in and read by Mr. Reid.

It was moved and seconded, and unanimously agreed,

That the report be received and adopted; that the thanks of the Synod be given to the Committee for their diligence; that the Committee be reappointed; and that instructions to Presbyteries be renewed to keep before the various congregations of the Church the duty of increased liberality, with the view of supporting and augmenting the Fund; and that the advice of an Actuary, in regard to the position and prospects of the Fund, be taken in the course of the ensuing year.

The Committee was appointed as follows, namely, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Messrs. Smellie, Scott, Boyd, Irvine, D Fraser, and R. F. Burns, ministers; Messrs. Fisher, Osborne, Buchanan, Elmslie, Walker, M'Lellan, Davidson, Blain, Ferrier, M'Murrich, Shaw, Spreull, Morgan, C. S. Patterson, Hay, Redpath. D. Davidson Court, Gibb, Dr. Dixon and Hon. J. M'Donald. John Fisher, Esq., Hamilton, Convener.

The Synod then adjourned to meet on Monday at 10 o'clock, A. M. and the Diet was closed with prayer.

NINTH SESSION.

MONDAY, 18*th June, Ten o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The minutes of last Sederunt were read and approved.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the case from Knox's Church.

The Moderator, with permission of the House, left the Chair, which was taken by Mr. Boyd.

The papers having been all read, the Synod proceeded to hear parties.

Dr. Burns was then heard for himself; Mr. James Shaw for the Session; Mr. Laing for the Presbytery of Toronto.

The hour of adjournment having come, the Session was closed with prayer.

TENTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, 18*th June, half-past Three, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Presbytery of Toronto applied to the Synod for leave to take on public probationary trials, Mr. Alexander McLean, and Mr. John Milloy, students of Divinity.

The Synod having heard the certificates of the Professor of Divinity in favor of these young men, the Synod granted leave to the Presbytery of Toronto, or to any other Presbytery within whose bounds they may be labouring, to take them on trial for license.

The Synod took up a petition from the Presbytery of London, praying the Synod to grant them permission to induct the Rev. Mr. Bethune, lately from Prince Edward Island, into a pastoral charge, if they shall see cause, before the expiry of twelve months.

The Synod unanimously agreed to grant the prayer of the petition.

The Synod then took up an overture from the Presbytery of Toronto on the subject of Manses.

The Synod having considered the overture, agreed to sustain it, and in terms of it instructed Presbyteries to correspond with the

various Congregations under their care, that have as yet no manses for their ministers, urging on them the propriety of taking prompt action in the premises, and to report at next Synod their progress in the matter.

The Synod then took up a memorial from the Rev. D. Clarke, formerly of Indian Lands, and who had been lately for a short time in the United States, praying to be recognized as a minister of this Church.

The Synod agreed to remit the matter to the Presbytery of Toronto, leaving it to them to dispose finally of Mr. Clark's memorial.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the case from Knox's Church, Toronto.

Mr. Laing having finished his pleading on behalf of the Presbytery parties were removed; after mature discussion, it was moved by Rev. W. B. Clark, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having heard the papers read, and the pleadings at the bar, in this case, sustain the finding of the Presbytery, dismiss the appeal, and recommend the Ministers and members of Knox's Congregation to cultivate a spirit of mutual forbearance and love.

It was moved by Rev. W. Gregg, and duly seconded,

That the Synod waive the merits of the appeal, find nothing proven against Messrs Pyper and Campbell, to disqualify them for the office of Eldership, but in consequence of the painful state of things which, from the evidence elicited in this case, appears to exist in Knox's Church, Toronto, appoint commissioners to visit that congregation, confer with parties with a view to bring about a state of greater harmony, and tender to them such counsel as in the circumstances may seem fit.

The roll was called and votes marked, when 40 voted for the first motion, and 12 for the second.

The first motion was declared to be carried.

Parties were recalled, and the finding of Synod intimated.

The Synod adjourned until half-past seven, P. M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

ELEVENTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past Seven, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and constituted.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the Report of the Committee, on Union with the United Presbyterian Church.

The report was accordingly read.

NINTH SESSION.

MONDAY, 18*th June, Ten o'clock, A. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The minutes of last Sederunt were read and approved.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the case from Knox's Church.

The Moderator, with permission of the House, left the Chair, which was taken by Mr. Boyd.

The papers having been all read, the Synod proceeded to hear parties.

Dr. Burns was then heard for himself; Mr. James Shaw for the Session; Mr. Laing for the Presbytery of Toronto.

The hour of adjournment having come, the Session was closed with prayer.

TENTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, 18*th June, half-past Three, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The Minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Presbytery of Toronto applied to the Synod for leave to take on public probationary trials, Mr. Alexander McLean, and Mr. John Milloy, students of Divinity.

The Synod having heard the certificates of the Professor of Divinity in favor of these young men, the Synod granted leave to the Presbytery of Toronto, or to any other Presbytery within whose bounds they may be labouring, to take them on trial for license.

The Synod took up a petition from the Presbytery of London, praying the Synod to grant them permission to induct the Rev. Mr. Bethune, lately from Prince Edward Island, into a pastoral charge, if they shall see cause, before the expiry of twelve months.

The Synod unanimously agreed to grant the prayer of the petition.

The Synod then took up an overture from the Presbytery of Toronto on the subject of Manses.

The Synod having considered the overture, agreed to sustain it, and in terms of it instructed Presbyteries to correspond with the

various Congregations under their care, that have as yet no manses for their ministers, urging on them the propriety of taking prompt action in the premises, and to report at next Synod their progress in the matter.

The Synod then took up a memorial from the Rev. D. Clarke, formerly of Indian Lands, and who had been lately for a short time in the United States, praying to be recognized as a minister of this Church.

The Synod agreed to remit the matter to the Presbytery of Toronto, leaving it to them to dispose finally of Mr. Clark's memorial.

The Synod then resumed consideration of the case from Knox's Church, Toronto.

Mr. Laing having finished his pleading on behalf of the Presbytery parties were removed; after mature discussion, it was moved by Rev. W. B. Clark, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having heard the papers read, and the pleadings at the bar, in this case, sustain the finding of the Presbytery, dismiss the appeal, and recommend the Ministers and members of Knox's Congregation to cultivate a spirit of mutual forbearance and love.

It was moved by Rev. W. Gregg, and duly seconded,

That the Synod waive the merits of the appeal, find nothing proven against Messrs Pyper and Campbell, to disqualify them for the office of Eldership, but in consequence of the painful state of things which, from the evidence elicited in this case, appears to exist in Knox's Church, Toronto, appoint commissioners to visit that congregation, confer with parties with a view to bring about a state of greater harmony, and tender to them such counsel as in the circumstances may seem fit.

The roll was called and votes marked, when 40 voted for the first motion, and 12 for the second.

The first motion was declared to be carried.

Parties were recalled, and the finding of Synod intimated.

The Synod adjourned until half-past seven, P. M., and the diet was closed with prayer.

ELEVENTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past Seven, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The minutes of last diet were read and constituted.

The Synod then proceeded to take up the Report of the Committee, on Union with the United Presbyterian Church.

The report was accordingly read.

It was resolved to take up, in connexion with this Report, various Petitions which had been forwarded from Congregations in favour of Union. These were also read.

The Synod then proceeded to discuss the question.

The hour of adjournment having come, it was ageed to adjourn the discussion until tomorrow afternoon.

The diet was then closed with prayer.

TWELFTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 19*th June, half-past Nine, A. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The Minutes of last session were read and approved.

The Synod took up a reference from the Presbytery of Toronto, in regard to the Rev. A. C. Geikie, who had applied to the Presbytery to be received as a Minister of the Church. The Synod sustained the reference and agreed to sanction the employment of Mr. Geikie in the missionary service of the Church until he shall formally be received as a minister.

The Synod called for the report of the College Building Committee, and also of the Committee appointed to draft a Deed for the holding of College property. Reports were given in and read.

It was Moved by Dr. Burns, and duly seconded,

That the proceedings at the special meeting in November last, regarding the College, be approved generally, and that the Committee be re-appointed with instructions to obtain a trust deed on the principle of the model deed for congregations; approve of the method proposed in the minute of the date referred to for the election of Trustees; limit the anticipatory disruption clause to the Ministers and Elders of the whole Church at the time, and the Committee is instructed on obtaining such a deed to proceed forthwith to receive donations and subscriptions to the extent of at least £10,000, and to obtain suitable plans and estimates, the result to be submitted to next Synod, or if the Committee choose, to a meeting to be especially called.

It was moved by Mr. Archibald Young, and duly seconded,

That the College building proposed to be erected in connexion with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, shall be vested in Trustees, chosen by the respective congregations, according to the resolutions passed at the *pro re nata* meeting of Synod, only that those shall be held elected, who have the greatest number of votes, to be held for the Synod, holding the principles recognised in the standards of this Church.

It was moved by Mr. McLaren, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having taken into consideration the subject of Deeding the College property, declare in favour of a deed which secures the property to the principles of our church as at present defined in the Standards of this body, the property to be held by Trustees, elected annually by the Synod.

It was agreed that the last two motions should be put to the House against each other, which having been done, a majority supported the motion made by Mr. McLaren.

The first motion, viz: that made by Dr. Burns, and Mr. McLaren's motion, were then put to the House, when 39 voted for Mr. McLaren's motion, and 20 for Dr. Burns' motion.

Mr. McLaren's motion was then declared to be carried, and in accordance with it, the Synod re-appointed the Committee, instructing them to obtain a Deed in accordance with the motion now passed, and, on obtaining such a deed, to proceed to receive donations and subscriptions, and to obtain suitable plans and estimates, the result to be submitted to next Synod, or if the Committee choose, to a meeting to be especially called.

The following form the Committtee on College Buildings, viz: Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Professor Young, Rev. Messrs. Irvine, Clark, McLeod, Lowry; Messrs. McMurrich, James Shaw, John Shaw, S. Spreull, G. Brown, Toronto; Messrs. Buchanan, Stewart, and Fisher, Hamilton; Mr. Christie, Niagara; Mr. A. Smith, Woodstock; Messrs. Clark and Begg, London; Mr. McKellar, Chatham; Mr. Young, Port Sarnia; Messrs. Morgan and Jeffrey, Cobourg; Mr. Young, Port Sarnia; Messrs. Morgan and Jeffrey, Cobourg; Messrs. Hay and Kennedy, Ottawa; Mr. Toshach, Ramsay; Messrs. Redpath, Court and Murray, Montreal; Messrs. Gibb, Ross, and Hossack, Quebec; Mr. Ferrier, Fergus; Mr. J. Paterson, Streetsville; Messrs. Miller, Cook and Lutz, Galt; Mr. Stewart, Vankleekhill; Mr. Cattanach, Lochiel; Mr. Short Otonabee; Mr. Kemp, Norwood; Mr. J. Hall, Peterborough; Messrs. J. Miller and Stewart; Kingston; Hon. J. McDonald, Gananoque; Mr. McPherson, Embro; Sheriff Sherwood, Brockville; Mr. Campbell, Prescott, with power to add to their number. Mr. J. McMurrich, Toronto, Convener.

The Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on the Preparation of a Book of Discipline, which was given in by Mr. Smellie, Convener of the Committee. On motion made, and seconded, it was resolved to receive the Report; express the thanks of the Synod to Mr. Smellie for his diligence in the preparation of a Book of Discipline; and appoint a committee to consider the draft submitted, and to report with regard to the printing of it to a future Diet of Synod. The Committee to consist of Prof. Young, Mr, Gregg, and Mr. D. Fraser,—Mr. Gregg, Convener.

Closed with prayer.

THIRTEENTH SESSION.

SAME DAY, *half-past Three, P. M.*

The Synod again met and was constituted.

The Minutes of last Session were read and sustained.

On motion made and seconded, it was unanimously

Resolved—That in the appointment of Trustees for holding the College property, according to the motion passed at last sederunt, the second resolution adopted at the special meeting in November last be retained, to the extent that each congregation shall elect an individual, being a member of the Church, and transmit the name of such person to the Clerk of Synod, on or before the 1st June, and that from the individuals thus chosen by the congregation the Synod shall appoint Trustees.

The Synod then took up a joint memorial from the Presbyteries of Brockville and Ottawa, praying for the Union of these two Presbyteries into one. The Synod unanimously agreed to grant the application of the Presbyteries, and to sanction the Union of these two Presbyteries into one, under the designation of the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa. The Synod further oppointed the Presbytery of Brockvlle and Ottawa to meet at Ottawa on the last Tuesday of July, at 7 o'clock, P. M., Mr. R. Boyd to be Moderator at the first meeting.

The Synod resumed consideration of the subject of Union with the United Presbyterian Church. The following motions were laid on the table:—

It was moved by Mr. John Ross, and duly seconded,

That the Synod believing that it is its duty to welcome a friendly conference with brethren holding forth to us the right hand of fellowship, and at one with us regarding the grand truths of the Gospel, and the order of the house of God, although differing from us on other points which we deem of importance as belonging to the constitution of this Church, and believing farther that such conference would tend to remove mutual misapprehensions, and to promote that harmony of sentiment and affection which might in due time lead to a lasting union, appoint a Committee to confer with any Committee appointed, or that may be appointed by our brethren of the United Presbyterian Church, on the subject of Union.

It was moved by Mr. Laing, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having heard the report of the Committee on Union, with the United Presbyterian Church, and petitions on the same subject, express their deep regret that owing to a misunderstanding of the deliverance of the Synod last year, the Committees of the two bodies were prevented from meeting and thus understanding more perfectly the position of each; and, being extremely desirous to come to a more thorough understanding of that position, declare it as their conviction, that the principal, if not the only hindrance to Union is, that this Synod consider it the imperative duty of officers and magistrates in their public and representative capacity, to legislate and rule in subjection to the authority, and in accordance with the dictates of revelation, where these are known,—yet appoint a Committee to confer with that Church, if they agree to such conference, and in the mean time tender to them their fraternal regards, and recommend friendly intercourse and interchange of good offices between the ministers and office bearers of the two communions.

It was moved by Dr. Burns, and seconded,—

That the Synod deeply regret the circumstances which have hitherto kept asunder two bodies so nearly at one on great principles, as the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and the United Presbyterian Church; and the members of this Synod cannot but cherish just alarm, lest errors of a dangerous character, regarding the nature of Christ's supremacy over the nations, and the responsibility of nations, as such, for the manner in which they deal with the written revelation of God, have made serious inroads among the Ministers and Members of that Church in these lands. The Synod appoint a Select Committee to draw up, and print in the *Record*, a short and well digested declaration of principles as held in the standards of the Church, in opposition to those avowed through the accredited organs of the United Presbyterian Church, and the same Committee shall hold conference, when desired, with the brethren of other churches who may harmonise in sentiment with us on such vital matters, and farther, that this Committee be required, from time to time, to vindicate from misrepresentation the doctrine really held by this Church in its accredited standards, and in the belief and practice of its members.

The vote being called for, the second and third motions were put against each other, when the second carried by a majority. The first and second having been then put to the House, 22 voted for the first, and 38 for the second, viz. that moved by Mr. Laing, which was accordingly declared to be carried.

The Committee was appointed as follows,—viz.: the Moderator, Dr. Burns, Messrs. Ure, Laing, Ross, McLaren, Inglis and Duncan, Ministers; and Messrs. Heron, Young, and Fisher, of Hamilton, Elders; Mr. Ure, Convener. Closed with prayer.

FOURTEENTH SESSION.

TUESDAY, 19*th June*, 1855, *half-past Seven, P. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The Minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Committee appointed to consider the Overture from the Presbytery of Hamilton, with reference to the employment of Ministers from Foreign Churches, gave in their Report.

The Synod sustained the Report, and adopted its recommendation, which is as follows:—

1. That in all cases, when applicants for admission do not come to us, in the way of "orderly translation, or express designation as Ministers or Missionaries," as pointed out in the amended Act for the admission of Ministers of Synod of 1847, but with private Certificates only, no connexion with this Church shall be recognised but with the express sanction of the Synod.
2. That in the case of Ministers provided with testimonials regularly granted by the ecclesiastical body with which they are connected, applying for employment in connexion with this Church, previous to a meeting of Synod, these testimonials shall be tabled at an ordinary meeting of Presbytery.
3. That these testimonials must lie on the table till the next ordinary meeting of Presbytery, occurring at an interval of not less than two months from the period of their presentation.
4. That unless the Presbytery at this second meeting be unanimous, no such applicant shall be employed in connection with this Church, previous to his case being brought before the Synod; but that, in the event of unanimity, it shall be competent for the Presbytery to avail themselves of his services.

Th Synod then called for the Report of the Committee on Foreign Missions. The Report was given in by Mr. Fraser, Convener.

The Synod, on motion made and seconded,

Resolved—That the same be received, and the thanks of the Synod given to the Convener and Committee; that the Synod express their regret that the Committee have been unable to secure Missionaries to go out to the foreign field; that the Committee be reappointed, with instructions to keep the claims of Foreign Missions before the members of the Synod, through the pages of the *Record*. The Synod further authorized the Committee to employ one or more of those Missionaries already in the field of India, who may be found suitable, until such time as they can obtain men from Canada, who may be found suitable and willing to undertake the work.

The Committee on Foreign Missions was appointed as follows, viz: The Moderator, Dr. Burns, Dr. Bayne, Professor Young, Messrs. Reid, Clark, Inglis, McRuar, D. Fraser, Duncan, and Scott, Ministers; Messrs. Redpath, Court, Hay, Rowan, Hossack, and Cattanach, Elders. Mr. Fraser, Convener.

The Rev. Mr. Tanner afterwards addressed the Synod on the progress, position, and claims of the French Canadian Missionary Society.

The following motion was adopted, viz:—

That the thanks of the Synod be given to Mr. Tanner, and that we assure him of the deep sympathy and interest felt by this Synod, in the work in which the Society which he represents is engaged, and of the unfeigned joy and gratitude to God, felt by the Synod, for the measure of success which has already crowned its labours. The Synod farther agreed that a collection, as usual, be taken up in all the congregations of the Church, in aid of the funds of this Society.

The Committee appointed to examine the Public Accounts of the Church, gave in a Report.

On motion made and seconded, it was agreed that the Report be received.

The Committee on the Statistical Returns gave in a Report:

On motion made and seconded it was agreed

That the Report be received, and the Synod record its thanks to the Convener, Rev. S. C. Fraser, for the excellent tables which he has so carefully prepared. The Synod ordered the Report to be printed in the columns of the *Record*, empower the Synod Clerk to correspond with Ministers who have neglected to forward Returns, and enjoin Presbyteries to see to the preparation of Reports for the future, by all the congregations within their bounds.

The Synod then took up an Overture, on the subject of the Support of the Ministry, brought in by the Elders attending the meeting of Synod. The Synod sustained the Overture, and renewed the recommendation of last year in regard to the increase of the stipends of Ministers in a rate commensurate with the greatly enhanced cost of living. The Synod also recommended all congregations to make arrangements for defraying the travelling expenses of their Ministers and ruling Elders, when attending the meeting of Synod.

The Synod then adjourned, to meet to-morrow at half-past nine o'clock, a. m.; and the Diet was closed with prayer.

FIFTEENTH SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, 20*th June*, 1855, *half-past Nine, A. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The Minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

The Committees appointed to revise the Records of the several Presbyteries, and the Synod Records, gave in their Reports, which were sustained, and the Records ordered to be attested accordingly.

The Synod then took up an Overture on the subject of the establishment of a Board of Publication and Colportage.

The following motion was agreed to, viz:—

That the Synod cordially approve of the object, earnestly recommend Presbyteries to take immediate steps to establish a system of Colportage within their bounds, and appoint the following Committee, to mature a scheme for a general Board of Publication and Colportage, to report to next Synod, viz: Mr. Inglis, Convener; Dr. Burns, Messrs. Irvine, John Alexander, Laing, Scott, King, Gregg, and Wardrope, Ministers; and Messrs. McLellan, Begg, Mitchell, Shaw, and Cattanach, Elders.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools gave in a Report.

The Synod sustained the Report, and reappointed the Committee as follows, viz: Messrs. Gregg, Nisbet, Laing, and Chambers, Ministers; and Dr. Holden, Mr. Court, and Mr. A. Fraser, Elders. Mr. Gregg, Convener.

In accordance with an Overture presented to the Synod, the same Committeee were appointed to take steps for publishing a periodical suitable for Sabbath School teachers and scholars, with a series of lessons for each Sabbath, on the plan of those issued by the Edinburgh Sabbath School Society.

The Committee, which had been appointed at a previous Diet, to examine the manuscript of the Book of Discipline, prepared by the Committee, of which Mr. Smellie was Convener, gave in a Report to the following effect:—

The Committee appointed to examine the manuscript presented by Mr. Smellie, beg to Report to the Synod that the Convener of the Committee has perused the manuscript; recommend that the work should be published by the author, and that the Synod, while not responsible for its contents, should give it a general approval, as a work calculated to be very useful to ministers, office-bearers, and members of the Church. But inasmuch as this work does not meet the requirements of the Synod, that a small Committee be appointed to prepare a Tract or Manual of Discipline, for the guidance of Church Courts, and of Church business in general, to be printed and sent down to Presbyteries before the first of January next, that the Presbyteries may carefully revise it, and Report to next Synod.

The Report was received, and Mr. Gregg, the Moderator, and Clerk of Synod was appointed a Committee in terms of the Report. Mr. Gregg, Convenor.

A Verbal Report was given in in behalf of the Agency and Record Committee.

The same was received, and the Committee appointed as follows, viz: The Moderator, Mr. Ure, Dr. Bayne, Professor Young, Mr. Irvine, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Wightman, and Mr. Laing,

Ministers; and Messrs. Shaw, McMurricb, McLellan, Fisher, and Court, Elders. Dr. Burns, Convener.

The Synod took up an Overture on the subject of the enlargement or more frequent publication of the *Mssionary and Ecclesiastical Record.*

The Synod referred the Overture to the Agency and Record Committee, recommending the subject of it to their careful consideration.

The Synod then took up an Overture from the Presbytery of Cobourg, on the introduction of instrumental music into the public worship of God.

It was moved by Mr. Fraser, and duly seconded,

That the Synod having heard the Overture from the Presbytery of Cobourg' declare that the introduction of instrumental music in public worship is not approved or permitted by this Church, and enjoin all Presbyteries to take order that no such innovation be introduced in any of the congregations within their bounds; but to take steps, so far as practicable, to encourage and cultivate the harmonious exercise of vocal praise.

It was also moved by Mr. H. Gordon, and duly seconded,

That having heard the Overture, and it having come to the knowledge of the Synod that instrumental music of a kind contrary to the practice of this Church, has been introduced into the congregation of Brockville, the Synod, without entering on the general question of the use of instrumental music, but with special reference to the long practice and present feelings of the congregations of this Church, associated with the dearest and most hallowed associations, are of opinion that the tendency of such an innovation as has begun, would be to disturb the peace and harmony of this Church; earnestly and affectionately recommend to the minister, Session, and Congregation of Brockville, to abstain from anything that would wound the Christian feelings of their fellow Christians connected with this Church—remit to the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa to deal with the subject in accordance with this deliverance, and recommend to all Presbyteries, Sessions, and Congregations, to discountenance any changes connected with the worship of this Church, before submitting them to the deliberate consideration of the Church, in the regular constitutional manner pointed out by the laws and practice of this Church.

It was also moved by Mr. Cheyne, and seconded,

That the Synod having heard the Overture from the Presbytery of Cobourg, regret to find that instrumental music has been introduced into the worship of God in a congregation of this Church, record its strong disapprobation of this innovation, and would reprobate the use of instrumental music in the worship of God, refer the matter to the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa, to deal with the congregation as it may judge fit, so as to bring about a discontinuancy of this innovation.

The second and third motions were put to the House, against each other, when the second carried.

A vote was afterwards taken on the first and second motions, when 34 voted for the first, and 4 for the second.

The first motion, viz—that by Mr. Fraser—was accordingly declared to be carried.

The Synod adjourned, to meet at half-past Three, p. m.; and the Diet was closed with prayer.

SIXTEENTH SESSION.

THE SAME DAY, *half-past Three, P. M.*

The Synod again met, and was constituted.

The Minutes of last Diet were read and sustained.

An Overture on the employment of Missionary Labour among the lumberers on the Ottawa, was taken up, and referred to the Presbytery of Brockville and Ottawa for consideration and action.

The Report of the Committee anent the Registration of Baptisms, Marriages, and Deaths, was given in.

The Report was received, and the Committee reappointed as follows: The Moderator, Dr. Burns, Professor Young, Messrs. Irvine, and Reid, Ministers; and Messrs. Shaw and McMurrich, Elders. The Moderator, Convener.

The Report of the Committee on Sabbath Observance was given in and read. The Synod agreed to sustain the Report, adopt its recommendations, and reappoint the Committee as follows, viz: Rev. R. F. Burns, Dr. Burns, Dr. Willis, Mr. Gordon, Messrs. Reid, Gregg, Lowry, Irvine, and Inglis, Ministers; and Messrs. Stewart, Redpath, Robertson, and McMurrich, Elders. Rev. R. F. Burns, Moderator.

The Committee on the Clergy Reserves gave in a Report. The Synod agreed to receive the Report., and to express their strong condemnation of the Act by which the Reserves have been nominally secularized, while all the evils flowing from the previous system have been perpetuated and confirmed.

An Overture, and various papers, on the subject of Intemperance, were taken up and considered by the Synod. After reasoning, it was agreed to recommend Ministers to give prominence, in every competent way, to the evils arising from the use of intoxicating drinks. Further, the Synod resolved again to petition the Legislature for the enactment of a Prohibitory Law.

An Overture on the subject of Spiritual Destitution among the German population, and the importance of seeking to supply, in some measure, this destitution, was considered, and generally approved. The Synod referred the subject to the Presbytery of Hamilton, in the earnest hope that they may be able to devise something for the spiritual benefit of this interesting class of the population.

An Overture on the importance of setting apart a special season for Prayer, for the revival of religion, was referred to the Committee on the State of Religion.

Various papers, with reference to the American Tract Society,

were brought before the Synod. The Synod agreed to refer them to the Board of Publication and Colportage.

An Overture on the subject of the publication of a Tract or Treatise on the Eldership, was brought before the Synod. Mr. Court was heard in favour of the Overture. The Synod agreed to refer the matter to the Committee on Colportage and Publication.

An Overture on the establishment of Congregational Libraries was taken up. The Synod approved the subject, and referred it to the Committee on Publication and Colportage.

An Overture on the subject of the desirableness of obtaining Theological Works, on reasonable terms, for Ministers' libraries, was brought in by the Elders attending the Synod. The following were appointed a Committee to give their attention to the matter, and take such steps as they may deem best for carrying out the object of the Overture, viz: Messrs. Court, Redpath, Rowan, with Rev. Messrs. Fraser and Inglis. Mr. Court, Convener.

The Synod appointed the four Quarterly Collections to be taken up in the usual order, viz:—

1. For French Canadian Missionary Society, on third Sabbath of July.

2. For Buxton Mission and Synod Fund, on third Sabbath of October.

3. For Foreign Missions, on third Sabbath of January.

4. For Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, on third Sabbath of April.

The Synod also ordered the contributions for the College to be taken up and remitted, in the course of the months of January and February.

The Synod, before closing, resolved to record their thanks to the Office-bearers of Cote Street Church, for the comfortable accommodation provided for the meetings of the Court, and also to the friends in Montreal, for the hospitality so kindly extended to the Ministers and Elders during the present Session.

The business of the Court having been concluded, the Moderator addressed the Synod, and announced that the next ordinary meeting of Synod would be held in London, and within St. Andrew's Church there, on the second Wednesday of June, 1856, at Seven o'clock, p. m.

After prayer, and the singing of the 126th Psalm, the Synod was closed with the benediction.

APPENDIX.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

Report of Settlement and Resignation of Ministers during past year.

INDUCTION.

Rev. John McTavish, late of the Free Church, Ballyhulish, in Scotland, was inducted into the pastoral charge of the united congregations of Thorah and Eldon, on the 27th July, 1854.

DEMISSIONS.

1. Rev. James Boyd, at his own request, was loosed from the pastoral charge of the united congregations in Markham, on the 29th of November, 1854.

2. Same date—Rev. John Mitchell was loosed from the pastoral charge of the united congregations in Brock and Reach, on account of the state of his health, and the extent of his field of labour.

3. On the 24th January, 1855, Rev. John McLachlan, on account of the delicate state of his health, resigned the pastoral care of one of his congregations, namely, Boston, retaining the congregation at Acton.

THOS. WIGHTMAN, *Pres. Clerk.*

June, 1855.

PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.

License:

1. Mr. John Anderson, student, licensed as a preacher, on 2nd August, 1854.

Ordinations:

1. Mr. Hugh Campbell, probationer, ordained as minister at Cornwall, on 20th Sept., 1854.
2. Mr. John Anderson, probationer, ordained as minister at Lancaster and Dalhousie Mills, on 11th October, 1854.
3. Mr. Robert McArthur, probationer, ordained as minister at Durham, (Ormstown,) and St. Louis de Gonzague, on 29th November, 1854.
4. Mr. John Milne, probationer, ordained as minister at English River, on 30th November, 1854.

Translations:

1. Rev. Duncan Cameron, translated from Vankleekhill to Lochiel, within the bounds, and inducted there, on 19th December, 1854.
2. Rev. David Inglis, translated from St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal, to the Presbytery of Hamilton, on 26 h April, 1855, with a view to his induction as pastor of McNab Street Church, Hamilton.

D. FRASER, *Presby. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.

Since the meeting of Synod, in 1854, this Presbytery have to Report—

First. The following Students were licensed to preach the Gospel:—

1. On the 8th August, 1854, Mr. Thomas S. Chambers.
2. On the 11th October, 1854, Mr. David Wardrope.
3. On the same day, Mr. John Rennie.

Second. The following Probationers were ordained:—

1. On the 25th April, 1855, Mr. James Pirie was ordaind over the congregation at Niagara.
2. On the 6th June, 1855, Mr. John McKay was ordained over the congregation at Wellesley.

Third. The following Ministers were inducted:—

1. On the 13th September, 1855, the Rev. John Alexander, formerly of Niagara, was inducted to the charge at Brantford.
2. On the 27th September, 1854, the Rev. Duncan McRuar, formerly of Blenheim and Paris, was inducted to the charge at Ayr.
3. On the 9th May, 1855, the Rev. David Inglis, formerly of St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal, wss inducted to the charge of the Second or McNab Street Church, Hamilton.
4. On the 23rd May, 1855, the Rev. Alexr. McLean, formerly of Wellington Square and Waterdown, was inducted to the charge of the united congregations of Cumminsville and Nairn Church.
5. On the 24th May, 1855, the Rev. Andrew Stevens, formerly of the Free Church Bonhill, Scotland, was inducted to the charge of the congregation at Paris.

Fourth. The Presbytery have to record with sorrow the decease, since the last meeting of Synod, of the Rev. Robert Lindsay, late of Ayr.

M. Y. STARK, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF PERTH.

The Presbytery of Perth have to Report that during the past Synodical year two settlements have taken place, viz: 1st, at Dalhousie, where Mr. J. Geggie, formerly of Spencerville, has been inducted; 2nd, at Bristol, where Mr. D. Wardrope was ordained as pastor of that congregation.

S. C. FRASER, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

Licenses, Ordinations, &c., that have taken place within the bounds of the Presbytery of London, during the year, 1854–55, viz:—

INDUCTIONS.

One case. the Rev. David Walker, late of Kirkwall, Scotland, was inducted over the congregation of Port Sarnia, on the 14th day of February, 1855.

ORDINATIONS.

Two cases. The Rev. William Doak, probationer, from the Free Church of Scotland, was ordained over the Congregation of Port Stanley, on the 14th day of February, 1855; and the Rev. James H. McNaughton, probationer, from the Free Church of Scotland, was ordained over the congregation of Saugeen, on the 23rd day of February, 1855.

LICENSES.

One case. Mr. James Ferguson, student of divinity, of Knox's College, was licensed to preach the Gospel on the 11th day of May, 1855.

No depositions or deaths.

JOHN SCOTT, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF COBOURG.

DEMISSION.

Since last meeting of Synod, the Rev. D. M. McAleese, demitted the pastoral charge of Norwood, and was released by the Presbytery.

ORDINATIONS.

1. Since last meeting of Synod, the Rev. W. Blain has been ordained as pastor of the congregation of North Cavan.

2. On the 15th May, 1855, the Rev. James Bowie was ordained and inducted into the pastoral charge of Norwood.

J. W. SMITH, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

The Presbytery of Kingston have to Report that, on the 23rd May, they ordained Mr. Thos. Chambers to the pastoral charge of the congregation of Picton.

W. GREGG, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.

The Presbytery of Brockville have to Report that, since last meeting of Synod, Mr. Geggie has been loosed from the pastoral charge of the congregation of Spencerville.

J. McMURRAY, *Pres. Clerk.*

REPORT OF THE COLLEGE COMMITTEE.

I. In presenting their Annual Report to the Synod, the College Committee would advert with thankfulness to the continued prosperity of the educational institute. The number of students in attendance last session was 43; of whom 16 were in the theological department, 20 were non-theological students, and 7 were receiving instruction from Mr. Smith, to prepare them for entering on the curriculum.

II. From the resolution adopted three years ago, to continue in the literary classes some whose admission to the Divinity Hall it was thought might be advantageously postponed, the number of candidates for license, at the expiry of this session, is less than it would otherwise have been. The Committee expect, however, that a correspondingly greater number will be in readiness next year for the public service of the Church. Meanwhile three labourers are about to go forth to the work, as soon as the Presbyteries shall have been satisfied of their qualifications. These will prove an accession in one of the most necessitous of the Church's departments, all of them possessing the Gælic language, and being adapted to minister to the Highland emigrants and settlers.

III. An account of the studies with which the young men in the different classes have been engaged during last session, has been drawn up by the Professors and Mr. Smith, and is inserted in the *Ecclesiastical Record* for May last. It was prepared and published, partly for the satisfaction of the Synod, and partly to guide Presbyteries in the examination of students.

IV. The Committee have been instructed to prepare, and to lay before the Synod, a curriculum which it could recommend for the Synod's adoption, beg respectfully to submit the following:—

Preliminary Class.—For those who, on examination, are not found qualified to enter upon the course properly so called. Arithmetic and Mathematics; English Grammar; Elements of Civil History; Elements of Latin and Greek.

Non-Theological Course.

1. First year—Classics; Mathematics; English Composition.
2. Second year—Classics; Junior Philosophy, (Logic and Metaphysics;) Physical Science, (Natural Philosophy, Chemistry, or Natural History;) History and English Literature, (Junior Department.)
3. Third year—Senior Philosophy, (Metaphysics and Ethics;) Junior Hebrew; Physical Science, (Geology;) History and Literature, (Senior Department.)

Theological Course.

1. First year—Evidences of Natural and Revealed Religion; Senior Hebrew; Church History; Exposition of Scripture.
2. Second year—Systematic Theology; Church History; Hermeneutics and Biblical History; Pastoral Theology.
3. Third year—Systematic Theology; Hermeneutics and Biblical Criticism; Pastoral Theology.

The principal difference between the curriculum submitted, and that which has hitherto been followed, is, that students in the first year of their theological course are, according to the scheme proposed, required to attend a class, to be conducted by Professor Young, for the critical exposition of Scripture. In this class, select portions, particularly of the Old Testament Scriptures, are read by the students in the original, and critically expounded by the Professor. This, in the opinion of the Committee, will not interfere with, but, on the contrary, be an excellent preparation for the formal and systematic study of hermeneutics and Biblical criticism, under Dr. Willis, in the two last years of the theological course. The curriculum is submitted, not as the best that could be devised, but as the best which it seems possible to adopt in present circumstances, with a staff of only two professors. The Committee are of opinion that the appointment, when that shall be found practicable, of a third professor, to fill the chair of Biblical Criticism and Hermeneutics, and to whom the teaching of the Hebrew language might also be committed, would be of great advantage. When the Church is in circumstances to make such an appointment, other modifications of the curriculum now submitted by the Committee will probably suggest themselves as desirable.

What has principally rendered the services of a tutor in Knox's College indispensable, is the fact that the great majority of the young men who come up to Toronto to study for the ministry are unable to profit by the Latin and Greek classes as at present conducted in University College. Your Committee are happy to be able to report that they have good hopes of such an alteration being effected, as will render the classes in University College suitable for the generality of the students of this Church. And that nothing may be left undone to secure so important a result, it is suggested that a small Committee be nominated specially to attend to this matter, with authority to confer, in name of the Synod, with the Senate of the University, the Government, or any individuals who have it in their power to promote the object desired by the Synod. In the event of this object being accomplished, it may not be necessary for the Synod to retain the services of a tutor in Knox's College beyond next session.

VI. As some irregularity has been found to prevail throughout the Church, in the matter of the examination of students, the Committee would respectfully call the attention of the Synod to the subject, and request this Court to make such regulations, and give such directions, as in its wisdom it may see fit, to remedy the defects which exist, and to secure the thorough, regular, and efficient examination of the students of the Church, both prior to their entering upon their studies in Knox's College, and at the different stages of their course.

VII. The Committee beg to urge upon the Synod the importance of taking decided steps towards the erection of College buildings. This matter having been committed into the hands of a special Committee, your Committee would not have adverted to it, had it not been well known that nothing practical had been effected during the past year. The necessity for College buildings becomes every year more and more urgent; and it is hoped that the Synod will not pass by without such an expression of the mind of the Committee, as will secure the most vigorous action during the ensuing year.

VIII. In conclusion, it is recommended that the College Committee, now to be appointed by the Synod, should contain one member, who might, even when it was impossible for him to attend the meetings of the Committee, still to give the Committee the benefit of his opinion, and convey also the sentiments of his co-presbyters, by correspondence, who might take it specially in charge to keep alive an interest in the College, within the bounds of the Presbytery to which he belonged, and to urge upon the Presbytery from time to time the consideration of such measures, and the adoption of such courses of action, as should seem best fitted in any way to strengthen the foundations, and to increase the efficiency of the great central institution of our Church.

REPORT OF WIDOWS' FUND COMMITTEE,

For year ending 31st May, 1855.

Your Committee are glad to report to the Synod that the Fund is, on the whole, in a prosperous condition, although not in a position to justify any relaxation of the efforts of the friends of the Church in aid of this most important object.

The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure for the past year, and also of the present position of the Fund:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND, OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MAY, 1855.

RECEIPTS.

1. Congregational Collections reported up to date	£302	10	1½
2. Annual rates paid by Ministers, and fines	153	0	0
3. Donations	1	11	3
4. Interest	155	10	9½
5. Principal invested, repaid	95	0	6
6. Bal. on hand at beginning of year	439	14	4½
Total receipts for year	£1147	7	0½

EXPENDITURE.

1. Annuities—2, £30 each; 1, £35; 2, £37 10s. each; 1, half-yearly payment, £15	£185	0	0
2. Proportion of Agent's salary	50	0	0
3. Postage, discount on drafts	2	19	6
4. Invested in purchase of debentures	666	0	0½
5. Minister's rate repaid with inter.	2	3	9
6. Blank Book for Ledger, Stationery, and incidental expenses	2	0	0
Balance in hand	239	3	9
	1147	7	0½

STATE OF THE MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND, OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA, 31ST MAY, 1855.

1. Number of Annuitants—4, having annuities of £30 each; 2, having annuities of £37 10s. each

Total charge at present for annuities £195 0 0

2. Number of Ministers at present contributing.

Presbytery of Toronto	16
" Cobourg	6
" Kingston	6
" Brockville	4
" Perth	9
Presbytery of Montreal	13
" London	16
" Hamilton	11
	81

3. Amount invested in debentures bearing interest at 6 per cent.

Debentures of County of Waterloo	£1019	0	0
Do.	Town of Sarnia	500	0	0
Do.	Township of Dereham.	1939	17	0
Do.	County of Middlesex...	600	0	0
		£4058	17	0
4. Money in hand for investment		239	3	9

During the past year one annuitant has come upon the fund, making now six in all.

The Committee rejoice to observe that so many ministers of the Church contribute to this fund. There are, however, several who are non-contributors. The Committee deeply regret this, as they regard it as a duty which ministers owe not only to themselves and to those depending upon them, but also to their congregations, to put themselves in a position to enable those surviving them to benefit by this fund.

The Committee also earnestly recommend that measures should yet be taken for drawing forth the interest and zeal of such congregations as have not contributed in an adequate measure to to this most important fund. The Committee suggest that the Synod should recommend this point to the consideration of Presbyteries.

The Committee, while thankful for the success which has attended the efforts made to raise this fund, are decidedly of opinion that it would be unsafe to lay aside the annual congregational collections until the vested capital shall have accumulated very considerably above the present sum.

In name, and by appointment of Committee,

W. REID, *Sec'y and Treasurer.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS.

In presenting this Report, the Committee on Statistics have to state, with regret, that the papers submitted to them, although more complete than those of last year, are nevertheless far from being satisfactory. Some of the Reports are most full and accurate; others are exceedingly meagre and incomplete. The Presbytery of Brockville, for instance, has rendered no Presbyterial Report; and only *one* Congregational Report—that of Prescott—has reached the Committee. The Synod will perceive, then, that only an approximation to a full Report can be expected from the Committee.

The Committee would, in the first place, call the attention of Synod to the Congregations that have disregarded this part of duty. A hope is expressed that some definite action may be taken by the Synod in this matter, to insure for the future greater regularity. If no notice be taken of these irregularities, it is useless to call for Reports, or to appoint a Committee to examine them.

Those who have neglected to make returns are the following:—In the Presbytery of
Montreal....3—Quebec, Osnabruck, Lingwick.
Ottawa.....0.
Brockville..3—All, except Prescott.
Kingston....0.
Cobourg....0.
Toronto....1.—King and Vaughan.
Hamilton...4—Fergus, Guelph, Paris, Nassagaweya.
London.....1—Ingersoll.

Total, 12 Congregations not reported.

It is but justice to state, in reference to Guelph, that the books of the Congregation have been destroyed by fire.

(It will be seen that since the meeting of Synod, returns have been received from several of the above Congregations.)

MEMBERSHIP AND PASTORAL VISITATIONS.

The returns handed in to the Committee are very full, as far as they extend, in exhibiting the strength of the Church in point of membership; and it is pleasing to record, and to report to the Synod, that out of 104 ministers, only *two* are said not to visit their flocks. The fact that all the ministers within the bounds preach at least twice every Lord's day, and that most have appointments also during the week, combined with the circumstance already mentioned, will present to the Church and the world a favourable view of the real members of our Synod.

LIBRARIES—MANSES.

It is with much pleasure that the Committee note the fact that Congregational Libraries are being extensively formed throughout the bounds. Sabbath School Libraries, containing several thousand volumes are found connected with our Churches; and it is hoped that such will continue to be the case. At the same time the Committee would most earnestly submit to the Synod whether it would not be desirable to make an emphatic declaration in favour of Congregational Libraries.

There is another matter which also has much interested the Committee, that, namely, of Manses and Glebes. It is not necessary to state to the Synod how much the possession of a Manse and Glebe may contribute to supplement a small salary, and otherwise conduce to the comforts of a minister; nor is it necessary to say that there are great facilities in a young country, like Canada, for acquiring at least a glebe. The Synod has already anticipated the recommendation of the Committee in this matter, in the deliverance which it has given.

The following tabular statement will give, at a glance, the state of the Church, as regards the subjects already-just referred to:—

PRESBYTERIES.	No. of Ministers.	No. of Members.	Increase of Members, 1855.	No. of Cong'ns and Stations.	No. of Vols. in Cong. Libraries.	Manses and Glebes	Value of Manses, &c.	Value of Churches.
Montreal	16	1,644	177	5	824	5	£1,308	£9,620
Ottawa	11	1,494	107	4	700	5	1,325	2,750
Brockville	4	150	19	...	.....	...	.....	1,400
Kingston	7	595	84	2	220	...	.....	6,350
Coburg	10	1,778	143	1	25	3	2,325	3,570
Toronto	20	1,858	209	6	1,967	3	700	10,675
Hamilton	16	1,530	115	3	730	2	250	7,650
London	20	2,142	205	4	570	7	5,034	7,790
Total	104	11,191	1,509	25	5,036	25	10,942	49,805

The material property belonging to the Church, according to the above statement, is between £60,000 and £70,000.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Committee will now proceed to give a synopsis of the condition of the Church in a financial point of view. They are not able, and they regret this, to institute a comparison between the present and the past year. The data furnished to them apply exclusively to the current year; and some of the Congregations that elicited special remarks last year, are not reported at all this year. Still it is the impression of the Committee that a forward movement has been made.

MINISTERS' STIPENDS.

There is, upon the whole, an improvement in the amounts paid to ministers, but the Committee cannot say to what extent. It is evident that the recommendation of last Synod has not been come up to; nay, there are still *seven* ministers in receipt of less than £100. They are the following:—

Presbytery of Montreal, 4—Metis, £80; Leeds, £80; English River, £95; St. Therese, £46.
Do.....do.....Ottawa, 1—Pembroke, £87.
Do.....do..... Brockville—No Report.

Do.....do.....Kingston, 0.
Do.....do.....Cobourg, 0.
Do.....do.....Toronto, 0.
Do.....do.....Hamilton, 2—Saltfleet, £85; Owen's Sound, £78.

The lowest on the list is St. Therese, £46. The lowest last year was Osnabruck, with something like £30. There is no Report this year from that Congregation, and the Committee cannot say whether any or what improvement has taken place.

In looking over the column devoted to stipend, the Committee have ascertained the following items of interest:—

—— and under £100.....	7	ministers.
£100 and under 150.....	50	"
150 and under 200.....	13	"
200 and under 300.....	6	"
300 and under 400.....	2	"
400.....	2	"

It thus appears that at least two-thirds of the ministers receive less than £150 each per annum; and also that one receives the small pittance of £46, and others the sum of £400 each.

KNOXS'S COLLEGE.

Very few of our Congregations have failed this year to contribute to the funds of our educational institute, still the amount is not such as the friends of the College would desire. The following have not contributed:—

Presbytery of Montreal, 6—Lachute, St.Therese, Indian Lands, St. Eustache, Cornwall, Durham.
Do .....do.....Ottawa, 1—Wakefield.
Do.....do.....Brockville—No Report.
Do.....do.....Kingston, 2—Chalmer's Church, Kingston, Demorestville.
Do.....do.....Cobourg, 2—Baltimore, Cartwright.
Do.....do.....Toronto, 0.
Do.....do.....Hamilton, 1—Niagara.
Do.....do.....London, 3—Amherstburg, Saugeen, Buxton.

Total non-contributors to Knox's College, 13.

FRENCH CANADIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The following Congregations have *not* taken up the Synodical Collection for this most excellent institution. It has more claims on us, as the Presbyterian Church of Canada, than perhaps any other benevolent association can have. It appeals to our patriotism, as well as to our Christianity.

There are only eight who have failed. They are the following:—

Presbytery of Montreal, 4—Metis, Lachute, Lancaster, English River.
Do.....do .....Ottawa, 0.
Do.....do.....Brockville—No Report.
Do.....do.....Cobourg, 0.
Do.....do.....Kingston, 1—Brock Street Church,
Do.....do.....Toronto, 0. [Kingston.
Do.....do.....Hamilton, 1—Niagara.
Do.....do.....London, 2—Chatham, Saugeen.

FOREIGN AND JEWISH MISSIONS.

The contributions for this scheme have been very generally taken up, and, it would appear, with considerable success. The following Congregations, however, have not sent in returns of contributions to this interesting object:—Presbytery of

Montreal....2—Metis, Durham.
Ottawa.....0.
Brockville... —No Report.
Kingston....2—Brock Street Church, Kingston, Demorestville.
Cobourg.....2—S. Cavan, Otonabee.
Toronto.....2—Chinguacousy, Streetsville.
Hamilton....0.
London .....3—N. Easthope, Sarnia, Saugeen.

Total, 11 Congregations.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

This scheme, the Committee believe, is very dear to the Church, and it is gratifying to state that, upon the whole, the collections in its behalf have been very generally taken up. All the Congregations in the Presbyteries of Ottawa and Kingston have contributed, and in the other Presbyteries only eleven have failed to do so. These are—

Presbytery of Montreal, 2—Metis, English River
Do.....do....Toronto, 4—Chinguacousy, York Mills, Acton, Barrie.
Do.....do....Hamilton, 1—Wellington Square.
Do.....do....London, 1—Aldborough.

PRESBYTERY'S HOME MISSION FUND.

In the different Presbyteries considerable sums have been raised for local missionary work. It is a pleasing fact that some Presbyteries—those of Ottawa and London for instance—have laid down a systematic plan for meeting the destitution, by personal services on the part of the members, besides contributing to the support of missionaries,—with the exception of the town of Cobourg and Hamilton, from which handsome contributions are yet expected, from which collections could reasonably have been looked for, have contributed to this fund.

BURSARIES.

This column can be dismissed in a few lines. Only *four* Congregations within the bounds are reported as having contributed. Their names deserve a place in this Report, as an example and encouragement to others. They are—Galt; Knox's Church, Hamilton; St. Gabriel Street Church, Montreal; and Ramsay.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT—1855.

PRESBYTERIES.	Stipends. £	s.	d.	College. £	s.	d.	French Canadian Miss. Society. £	s.	d.	Buxton Synod Fund. £	s.	d.	French and Indian Mis. £	s.	d.	Widows' & Orphans' Fund. £	s.	d.	Presby's Home Mis. Fund. £	s.	d.	Churches and Manses. £	s.	d.	Miscellaneous. £	s.	d.
Montreal.	1,861	0	0	840	1	7½	154	7	1	30	5	0	106	13	1	44	5	0	85	11	1½	1,027	2	4	1,097	10	0
Ottawa....	1,215	11	2	41	5	4	40	5	10½	27	18	11	38	13	5	22	10	5½	28	13	6	382	19	3	227	9	1½
Brockville.	150	0	0	5	15	0	1	11	4½	2	15	0	2	5	3	2	5	0	7	18	1	.....			33	2	3½
Kingston..	830	8	4	24	5	0	16	0	0	16	16	0	18	14	0	21	7	2½	33	18	6	329	1	11	339	0	0
Cobourg...	1,521	0	0	81	12	4½	48	18	9	45	6	11½	62	1	6	17	14	5	61	18	9½	1,158	17	7	347	19	8
Toronto...	1,936	2	6	190	2	7	66	4	3½	60	1	8½	66	9	5½	53	10	10½	73	5	5½	847	2	0	954	2	5
Hamilton.	2,009	1	6	265	6	3	61	5	9	58	13	8	135	16	9	121	0	11	183	0	2	1,137	10	0	900	7	0
London...	1,946	10	0	133	10	0	56	15	0	65	15	0	99	11	3	65	11	3	201	0	0	781	8	9	297	13	5½
Total...	11,469	13	6	840	1	7½	445	8	7½	307	10	3	530	11	9½	348	5	1½	765	13	7½	5'664	8	9	4,198	15	9½

The Committee have thus gone over the tables and matters submitted to them, and called the attention of Synod to what they conceived to be worthy of observation. They submit, in a tabular form, the Church's financial condition; and they feel that they may congratulate the Synod on the respectable appearance which our Presbyteries make.

Hamilton is the Presbytery that raises the largest amount of money, and Cote Street Church, Montreal, the Congregation. In the latter case, the sum is £1,435 5s. 8d.

The Committee feel that they are safe in calculating that the Congregations not reported, raise in the way of stipend at least £1,000. Let the amount thus raised—say £12,500—be equally divided among the 104 ministers, and the share of each would be a fraction over £120.

In conclusion, the Committee cannot close their Report without adverting to the short history of our separate organization as a Church. Eleven years since, the ministers of the Free Presbyterian Church of Canada amounted to 22; now they number 104, with a membership of 1,200 souls, raising yearly, for sustenation and missionary purposes, £25,000, and possessed of property estimated moderately at £60,000. The Lord hath done great things for us, and it becometh us to be glad.

All which is respectfully submitted.

S. C. FRASER, *Convener.*

FORMULA TO BE SIGNED BY MINISTERS, ELDERS, DEACONS, AND PROBATIONERS.

I, ——, do hereby declare that I do sincerely own and believe the whole doctrine contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith, as approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year one thousand six hundred and forty-seven, to be the truths of GOD, and I do own the purity of worship presently authorised and practised in this Church, and also the Presbyterian Government and Discipline thereof: which Doctrine, Worship and Church Government I am persuaded are founded on the Word of God and are agreeable thereto; and I promise that, through the grace of God, I shall firmly and constantly adhere to the same, and to the utmost of my power shall in my station assert, maintain, and defend the said Doctrine, Worship, Discipline, and Government of this Church, by Sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods; that I shall, in my practice, conform myself to the said Worship, and submit to the said Discipline and Government, and never endeavour, directly or indirectly, the prejudice or subversion of the same; and I promise that I shall follow no divisive course from the present order in the Church; renouncing

all Doctrines, Tenets, and opinions whatsoever contrary to, or inconsistent with the said Doctrine Worship, Discipline or Government of this Church.

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO A MINISTER IN HIS ORDINATION.

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and manners?

2. Do you sincerely own and believe the whole doctrine contained in the Confession of Faith, approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year 1647, to be founded upon the word of God: and do you acknowledge the same as the confession of your faith; and will you firmly and constantly adhere thereto, and to the utmost of your power assert, maintain, and defend the same, and the purity of worship as presently practised in this Church.

3. Do you disown all Popish, Arian, Socinian, Arminian, Erastian, and other doctrines, tenets, and opinions whatsoever, contrary to or inconsistent with the aforesaid Confession of Faith?

4. Believing, as you declare, that the Lord Jesus, as King and head of the Church, hath therein appointed a government in the hand of the Church officers distinct from the civil magistrate, are you resolved to maintain, and that, at all hazards, that in the administration of spiritual things, the church is bound to act ministerially under Christ her head, as responsible in such administrations to him alone; while, in all things secular and civil, her officers and members are subject to the laws and rules that govern civil society?

5. Are you persuaded that the Presbyterian government and discipline of this church are founded upon the Word of God, and agreeable thereto, and do you promise to submit to the said government and discipline, and to concur with the same, and never to endeavour, directly or indirectly, the prejudice or subversion thereof, but to the utmost of your power, in your station, to maintain, support, and defend the said discipline and Presbyterian government by Sessions, Presbyteries, and Synods, during all the days of your life?

6. Are you pursuaded that the pastoral relation can be legitimately founded only on the free choice and consent of the people?

7. Do you promise to submit yourself willingly and humbly, in the spirit of meekness, unto the admonitions of the brethren of this Presbytery and to be subject to them and all other Presbyteries, and the superior judicatory of this church, where God in His Providence shall cast your lot; and that, according to your power, you will maintain the unity and peace of this church against error and schism, notwithstanding of whatever trouble or persecution may arise, and that you shall follow no divisive course from the present doctrine, worship, discipline, and government of this church?

8. Are not zeal for the honour of God, love to Jesus Christ, and desire of saving souls, your great motives and chief inducements to enter into the functions of the holy ministry, and not worldly designs and interests?

9. Have you used any undue methods, either by yourself or others, in procuring this call?

10. Do you engage, in the strength and grace of Jesus Christ our Lord and Master, to rule well your own family, to live a holy and circumspect life, and faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully to discharge all the parts of the ministerial work, to the edification of the body of Christ?

11. Do you accept of and close with the call to be pastor of this church, and promise, through grace, to perform all the duties of a faithful minister of the gospel among his people?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO AN ELDER.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the same as the foregoing.

7. Do you accept of the office of an Elder of this church, and promise through grace, faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully, to discharge the duties thereof?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO A DEACON.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, the same as the foregoing.

7. Do you accept of the office of a Deacon of this church, and promise through grace, faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully, to discharge the duties thereof?

The following explanatory Note was adopted by the Synod at its meeting in Toronto, 1854:—

The Synod, in declaring their adherence, as they now again do, to the Confession of Faith, approved by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, in the year 1647, hereby declare that they do not understand the passages relative to the duty of the civil magistrate, as teaching or sanctioning an Erastian control of the Church by the civil magistrate or the persecution of individuals for conscience sake; principles which the Synod heartily disclaim as inconsistent with the liberty wherewith Christ has made his people free—opposed to the spirit and terms of the said Confession, and repudiated by the Church in her purest and best times.

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